

Here is the official
report and notes
on our Scientific
Collecting that we
did this summer.

David C. Melt



1938

CAPT. ROBERT A. BARTLETT
GREENLAND EXPEDITION of 1938

Under the Auspices of
SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION
AND CLEVELAND MUSEUM

REPORT ON THE SCIENTIFIC COLLECTING DONE IN NEWFOUNDLAND AND
LABRADOR WITH FIELD NOTES.

By D. C. NUTT.

Our only Newfoundland stop was Brigus on July 7, 1938, where we remained for four days. From here we went north along the coast of Labrador, stopping only at W. Turnavik on July 16 before hauling away for the Greenland coast. We came south along the Baffinland and Labrador coasts stopping at Turnavik on August 30 and Square Island on September 2. We again put into Brigus for two days on September 5.

At each of these places we were able to get ashore at least for a short while to do some collecting. I have prepared the following field notes for each of these places. We collected birds for The Cleveland Museum of Natural History and flowers, insects, marine life, and stomachs for The United States National Museum. The entire collecting was under my direction; I had three able assistants which made collecting in such varied fields possible: Rupert Bartlett, Captain Bartlett's nephew, was the botanist and made a collection of representative flowers each time ashore in Labrador; Hugh Byfield was in charge of collecting insects and microscopic life; while Ray Hellman aided me with the collection of birds and marine life and stomachs.

Before starting the field notes on the places visited I wish to make a few general statements on our work. On our way south we made a series of Plankton Hauls. In all we made nineteen from Cape Raper, Baffinland to Cape Freels, Newfoundland. Also eight jellyfish were collected while in Conception Bay and off the coast of Newfoundland. A bottom sample was taken off White Handerchief, Labrador (app. 59 35' N. Lat., 63 15' W. Long.). On August 31, 1938, 3 Gannets were observed off the Bulldog Island, Labrador (54 38' N. Lat., 57 02' W. Long.). Early in the morning of September 1, the boatswain saw a flock of about ten or twelve and later that day I, myself, saw two more. Then we were off Round Hill. I again observed one off St. Lewis Sound on September 3. From then on they were fairly common as we went down the Newfoundland coast, especially near Cape Broyle where we saw many flocks, one of 31 (counted) and one of about a hundred. The Gannet is not supposed to occur on the coast of Labrador according to O. L. Austin Jr. in his book "Birds of Newfoundland Labrador" who says



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that he has never seen or heard of the Gannet on the coast of Labrador. The natives of Square Island report that they have seen quite a few this summer.

Throughout the summer I kept detailed sight records of birds, but as yet have not tabulated the results of these observations except in the places where we were ashore and in the case of the Gannets. Any further information obtained from the records or from any subsequent research with the specimens will be added to these notes.



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NEWFOUNDLAND FIELD NOTES

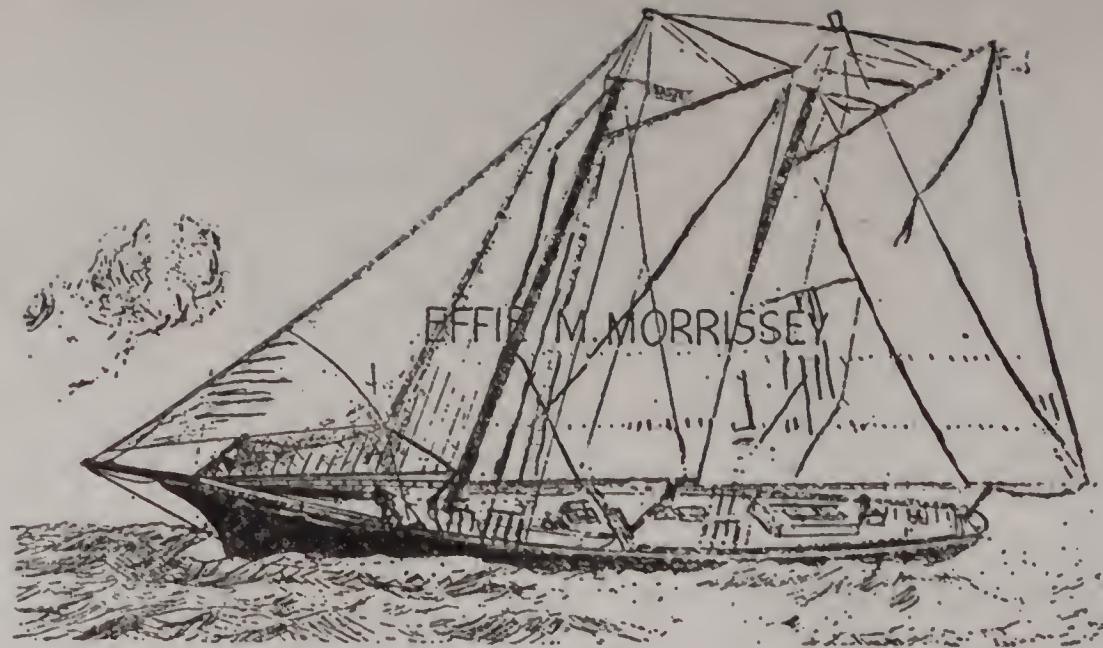
On our way north we were in Brigus from July 7 to July 11. The first three days were spent inland at Hodgewater, and after returning to Brigus I was able to make two short field trips to the country nearby. On our way south when we stopped at Brigus on September 5, I spent the day of the 6th, inland at Makinson's Grove near Turk's Water. On all of these trips I was accompanied and aided by my faithful assistant Ray Hellmann.

Field Notes for Hodgewater:

By noon of July 7, we had pitched camp at Hodgewater, a chain of lakes eleven miles inland and at an altitude of 200-300 ft., where we remained until noon on July 9. There were occasional barren and grassy open spaces on the low rolling hills, that for the most part, were covered with a very dense second growth of spruce with spatterings of Tamarack. Numerous boggy sections were found throughout and blueberry bushes were everywhere. Trout were often heard jumping on the lakes. Every square inch of ground was covered with a dense layer of every insect that was able to bite. The weather was fine and warm except for early in the morning of the 8th when there was a shower.

The number of birds in this territory was large, but the number of species was comparatively restricted. In the short time there, we observed only 22 species, but most of these species were fairly common. Collecting was extremely difficult due first to the impenetrable underbrush which made an approach to a bird like a thrush utterly impossible, and which gave the utmost difficulty in spotting a bird at all and still be far enough away to shoot without blowing him all to pieces.

The birds were all shy except the Warblers and Chickadees, and would fly long before you could approach within range. The Robins in particular were wild as were the Fox Sparrows. In the case of the birds of the more dense growth, this could be attributed to the steam-engine fashion in which we had to force our way through the wiry underbrush. But I cannot



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explain the shyness of the Robins, for even walking along the roads or in open places it was exceedingly difficult. One person from Brigus said that the foxes were after the Robins a lot.

- (1) Gavia immer, Common Loon:
Heard at night.
- (2) Botarius lentiginosus, American Bittern:
Saw and heard one nearby in a marshy section.
- (3) Gallinago delicata, Wilson Snipe:
Flushed one from a marshy field and also heard one flying high above us.
- (4) Larus a. argentatus, Herring Gull:
About a half dozen were about the lakes.
- (5) Totanus melanoleucus, Greater Yellowlegs:
Fairly common. Their "twilick" could often be heard about the ponds.
- (6) Pisobia minitilla, Least Sandpiper:
A very small Sandpiper, undoubtedly this species was seen on the shore early in the morning.
- (7) Colaptes auratus luteus, Northern Flicker:
Heard one in a dense growth on the top of a hill.
- (8) Corvus b. brachyrhynchos, Crow:
Fairly common.
- (9) Penthestes a. atricapillus, Black-capped Chickadee:
Common in the dense growths.
- (10) Penthestes hudsonius littoralis, Hudsonian Chickadee:
Positively identified only two.
- (11) Turdus m. migratorius, Robin:
Common, but very wary.
- (12) Hylocichla mustelina, Wood thrush:
Fairly common. Heard often from the deep woods at dusk.
- (13) Hylocichla guttata faxoni, Hermit Thrush:
Fairly common, and as the Wood Thrush was heard only from the deep woods, making approach impossible.
- (14) Regulus c. calendula, Ruby-crowned Kinglet:
Probably fairly common. Saw several.
- (15) Dendroica aestiva amnicola, Nfld. Yellow Warbler:
Common. Heard at almost all times.



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(16) Dendroica striata, Blackpoll Warbler:
Most abundant Warbler.

(17) Wilsonia p. pusilla, Wilson Warbler:
Fairly common.

(18) Passerculus sandwichensis labradorius, Labrador Savannah Sparrow: Common only in the open parts.

(19) Passerella i. iliaca, Fox Sparrow:
Common. Lone birds were singing from their perches on the top of larger trees in every direction.
They were extremely shy.

(20) Melospiza l. lincolni, Lincoln's Sparrow:
Probably not uncommon. Positively identified only two.

(21) Melospiza georgiana, Swamp Sparrow:
By far the most common bird. They are supposed to be shy, but being so common, we could not help getting near them. However, their shyness did show up in that you could not approach them while they were singing. When any nearer than fifty yards, they automatically stopped singing and continued at a high cheep.

(22) Zonotrichia albicollis, White-throated Sparrow:
Fairly common. Their clear high note was often heard from the deep thickets.

List of Specimens Taken

1 Greater Yellowlegs	(ad.♂)
5 Robins	(2 ad.♂, 1 ad.♀, 2 juv.?)
2 Yellow Warblers	(1 ad.♂, 1 ad.♀)
1 Blackpoll Warbler	(ad.♀)
1 Wilson Warbler	(ad.♂)
1 Ruby-crowned Kinglet	(ad.♂)
4 Savannah Sparrows	(2 ad.♂, 2 ad.♀)
1 Fox Sparrow	(ad.♂)
2 Swamp Sparrows	(2 ad.♀)



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Field Notes for Brigus:

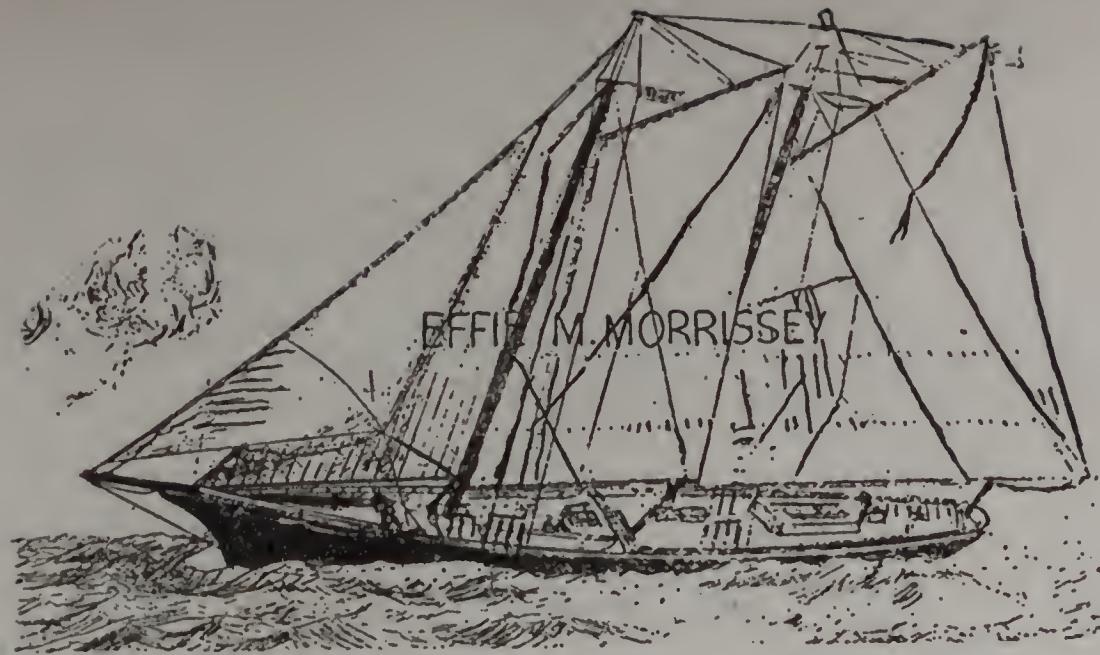
We returned to Brigus on the afternoon of July 9 from Hodgewater; and on the afternoon of the 10th, Ray and I went up on the high flats above Brigus. There was a strong wind sweeping from the land across the higher rocky places and the lower marshy parts, where there were heavy patches of button bush.

- (1) Larus a. argentatus, Herring Gull:
Several could be seen flying over Brigus Harbour.
- (2) Actitis macularia, Spotted Sandpiper:
One sandpiper was seen at a distance upon a high rock overlooking the harbour. It was about the size of the Spotted Sandpiper.
- (3) Turdus m. migratorius, Robin:
One was seen in the thicker sections of button bush.
- (4) Dendroica aestiva amnicola, Yellow Warbler:
Common in the thick button bush.
- (5) Octocuris a. alpestris, Horned Lark:
Saw 4 on the higher rocky sections.
- (6) Passerculus sandwichensis labradorius, Labrador
Savannah Sparrow: Extremely common everywhere.
- (7) Melospiza Georgiana, Swamp Sparrow:
Common in the sections of button bush.

Due to the wind collecting was extremely difficult and we only obtained 3 specimens.

1 Robin	(ad.♀)
1 Savannah Sparrow	(ad.♀)
1 Swamp Sparrow	(ad.♂)

From 5 a.m. to 8 a.m. of July 11, we were in "Frog Marsh," which is the wooded valley between two steep cliffs that slope up from the sea. The higher sections where we were, were not marshy as the name would imply. The birds were active and numerous, but still difficult to approach due to shyness and dense undergrowth.



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- (1) Larus a. argentatus, Herring Gull:
Several were seen flying overhead.
- (2) Corvus b. brachyrhynchos, Crow
Fairly common on the higher rocky ledges.
- (3) Penthestes a. atricapillus, B. C. Chickadee:
Groups of Chickadees were common in the more dense growths.
- (4) Turdus m. migratorius, Robin:
Very common especially near the houses of the lower sections, but they were shy, as at Hodgewater.
- (5) Dendroica aestiva amnicola, Yellow Warbler:
Common.
- (6) Dendroica striata, Blackpoll Warbler:
Common.
- (7) Wilsoni p. pusilla, Wilson Warbler
Saw only one.
- (8) Passerculus sandwichensis labradorius, Labrador Sparrow: Common in the lower fields.
- (9) Passerella i. iliaca, Fox Sparrow:
Lone singers were heard in every direction.
- (10) Melospiza Georgiana, Swamp Sparrow:
Only a scattered few were heard.

List of Specimens

1 Black-capped Chickadee	(ad.♀)
1 Robin	(ad.♀)
1 Fox Sparrow	(ad.♂)

3 specimens

The stomachs of these three specimens were preserved and sent to the United States National Museum.



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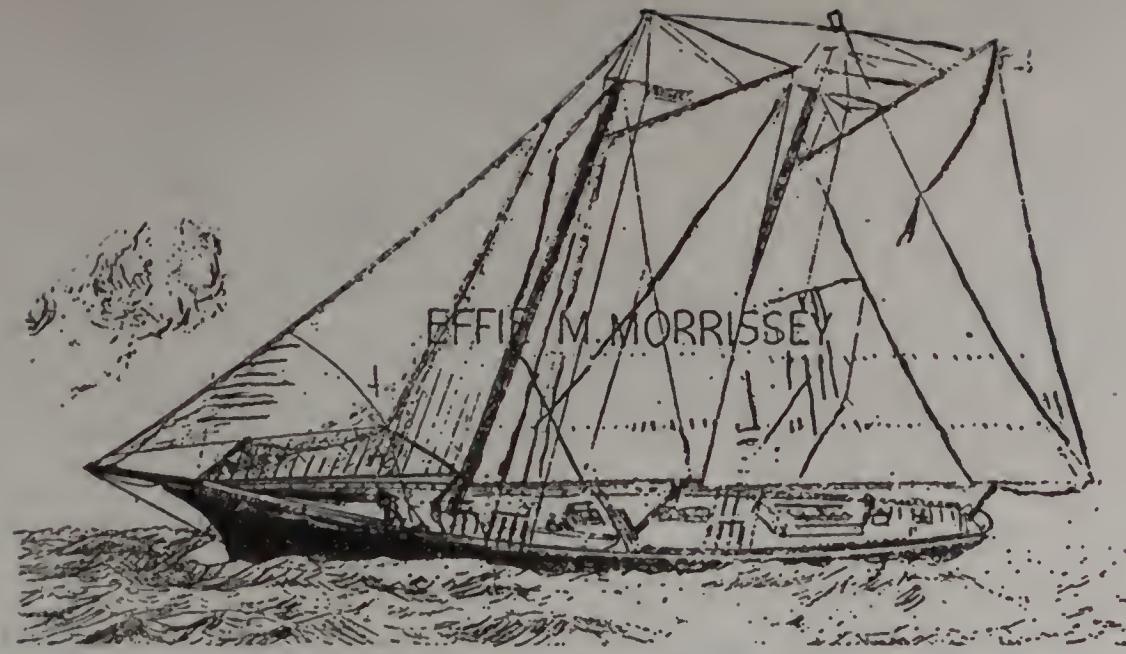
Field Notes for Makinson's Grove, Turks Water:

On our way south we arrived in Brigus on September 5, and again Ray Hellmann and I packed off inland to collect. This time we went to Makinson's Grove in by Turks Water, about 6 or 7 miles from Brigus. Before dark on the 5th after pitching our camp, we were able to have a short tramp about to survey the country. From dawn to dark of the 6th was spent collecting. Early in the morning of the 7th we returned to Brigus and sailed at noon.

Makinson's Grove is indeed a beautiful spot. In our short stay there we could only visit one section of it, which as for the most part, was pastureland in a valley through which a stream ran. Part of it was open meadow where were grazing some cows, horses, and sheep, and further downstream we got into the thicker spruce forest that was spattered with clearings. Sections of both the forest and meadows were marshy and covered with thick low bushes.

All the time we were there it was fine and clear but blowing a gale of wind from the southwest, which made it very difficult to find the birds. Both on account of the wind and our limited time of observation, my notes are inadequate, but there is one thing that I did notice. There was not a Warbler to be seen. The natives of Turnavik, Labrador, have recorded an early migration, and while in the far north we saw signs of an early winter. I, therefore, believe that this is due to an early migration, and this is borne out by the fact that on September 10, while at sea, a Yellow Warbler while migrating came on board the vessel.

- (1) Botarius lentiginosus, American Bittern:
Saw one flying up the stream.
- (2) Accipiter velox, Sharp-shinned Hawk:
Saw one making after some Crossbills.
- (3) Colaptes auratus luteus, Flicker:
Saw two in thick forest.
- (4) Jays: Saw or heard none, but they are said to be common.
- (5) Corvus b. brachyrhynchos, Crow:
Common. Heard and saw a flock in the early morning in the pasture.



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- (6) Euphagus carolinus, Rusty Blackbird:
Fairly common. Saw two small flocks.
- (7) Penthestes a. atricapillus, Black-capped Chickadee:
Very common everywhere. I succeeded in attracting several with the mating call.
- (8) Penthestes hudsonius littoralis, Hudsonian Chickadee:
Common, but not as common as the Black-capped Chickadee.
- (9) Turdus m. migratorius, Robin:
Fairly common, but as in July, they were wild and only stayed where it was thick woods and underbrush.
- (10) Regulus c. calendula, Ruby-crowned Kinglet:
Common. Many flocks were flitting about the larger spruce trees.
- (11) Loxia, Crossbills:
Common. Small flocks could be seen flitting through the air and heard noisily chirping in the larger spruce trees. I am not sure which species was more common but both were about.
- (12) Passerculus sandwichensis labradorius, Labrador Savannah Sparrow: A few were seen in the open parts.
- (13) Passerella i. iliaca, Fox Sparrow:
Heard the musical note of several.
- (14) Melospiza l. lincolni, Lincoln's Sparrow:
Caught a fleeting glimpse of what I am certain was a Lincoln's Sparrow as he vanished in the thick underbrush.
- (15) Melospiza georgiana, Swamp Sparrow:
Very common in the open fields where there were thick scrubby bushes.

List of Specimens

1 Flicker	(ad.♀)
2 Black-capped Chickadees	(1 ad.♂, 1 imm.♂?)
2 Hudsonian Chickadees	(2 ad.♂)
2 Ruby-crowned Kinglets	(2 imm.♂?)
1 Rusty Blackbird	(ad.♂)

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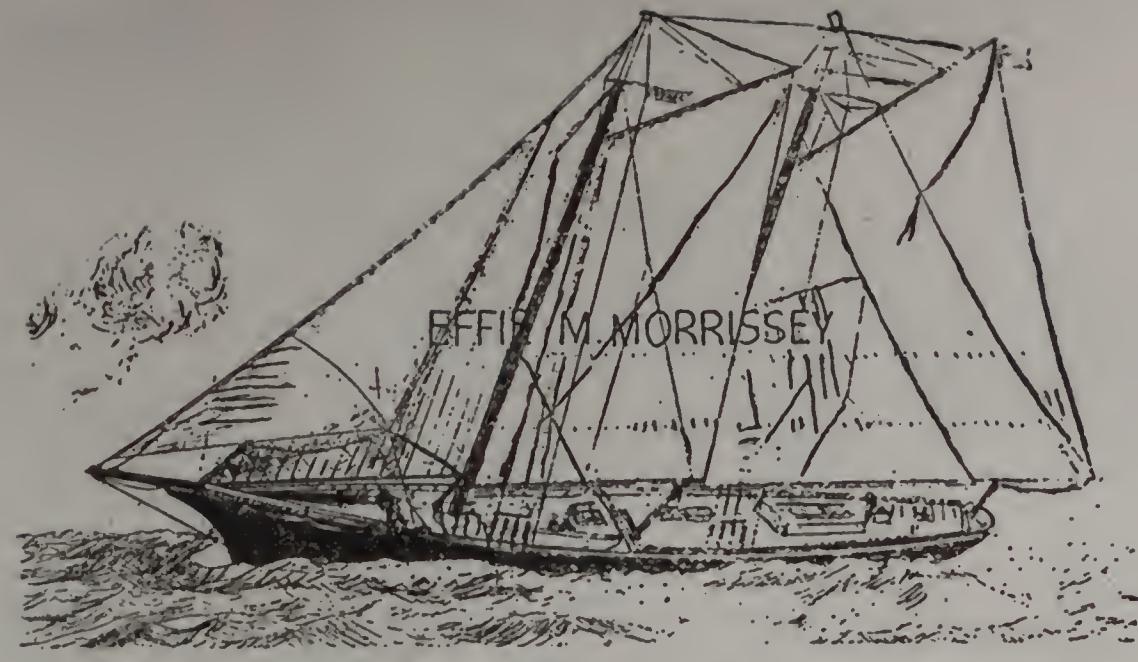
2 Nfld. Red Crossbills	(1 ad. ♀, 1 imm. ♂)
* 1 White Winged Crossbill	(ad. ♂)
1 Savannah Sparrow	(ad. ♂)
1 Swamp Sparrow	(ad. ♀)

13 specimens

The stomachs of all these birds were preserved for the United States National Museum.

Besides birds we also collected 10 bottles of insects and 5 bottles of microscopic marine life for the United States National Museum.

* The testes of this White-winged Crossbill were greatly enlarged. He appeared to be in full breeding condition. He was in heavy moult.



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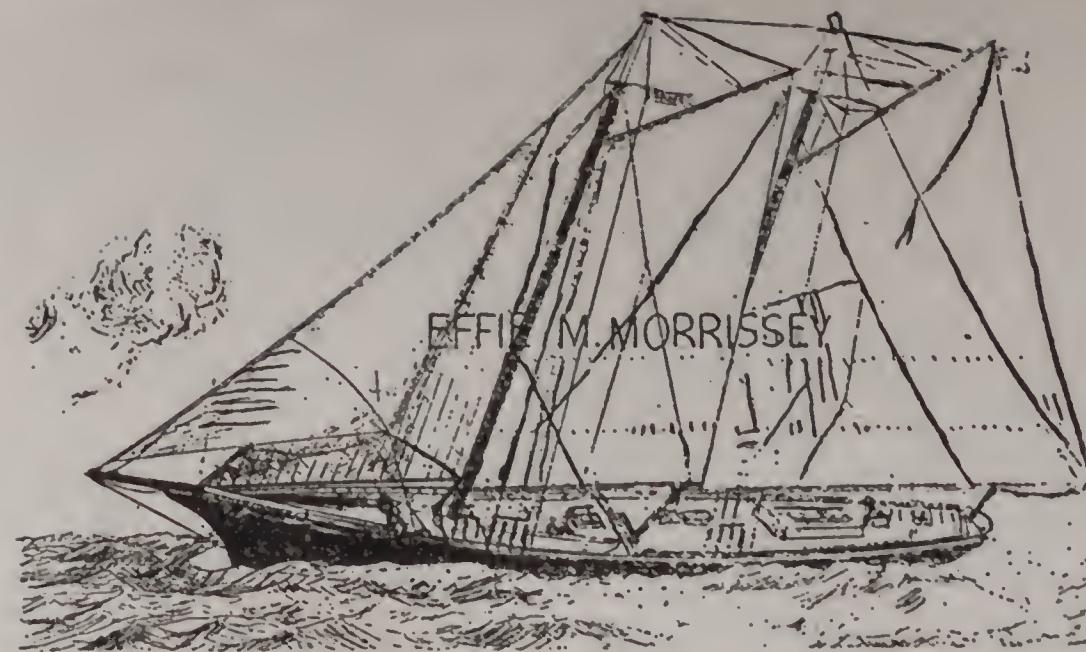
Field Notes for W. Turnavik*, July 16, 1938:

We arrived at W. Turnavik, the old Bartless fishing station, at 8:30 a.m. July 16, 1938, and I was able to spend the entire day ashore. In the morning I collected insects and marine life; in the afternoon, Ray Hellmann and I collected birds with good success, in spite of the mean, miserable drizzle the entire time.

W. Turnavik is a small outer island on the Labrador coast. There are no trees to speak of on it, except for a few scrub spruce about a foot or so high. The higher parts are rocky, and the lower parts are covered with grass, moss, and flowers (Rupert Bartlett collected over 50 species of flowers on the island). There are about 30 small ponds on the island, ranging from mere mud holes to the largest one which is almost a quarter of a mile long. The ponds were for the most part of rocky bottom. The sea coast was very rugged except in the sheltered harbor where a small stream flowed into a low flat tide wash.

- (1) Buteo lagopus s. johannis, Rough-legged Hawk:
Saw a pair flying high over the island.
- (2) Charadrius semipalmatus, Semi-palmated Plover:
Common in the sheltered spot where the small stream ran into the ocean. Young birds were running about.
- (3) Pisobia minutilla, Least Sandpiper:
Saw none at all. Last year they were common.
- (4) Larus hyperboreus, Glaucous Gull:
A few were seen.
- (5) Larus marinus, Great Black-backed Gull:
Fairly common on the rocky coast.
- (6) Otocoris a. alpestris, Horned Lark:
Rare. Saw one adult with a baby, so they must be breeding on the island.
- (7) Turdus m. migratorius, Robin:
Captain Bartlett says that he never has known the Robin to be at W. Turnavik, but that they are common up the bay at Ben's Cove where there are some trees. I myself saw none. Ray Hellmann said that he saw three and produced a juvenile specimen, so I can

* W. Turnavik is app. 55° 17' N. Lat., 59° 20' W. Long.



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reasonably assume that at least one pair was breeding
on the island this year.

- (8) Anthus spinoletta rubescens, Pipit:
Common on the higher rocks.
- (9) Zonotrichia l. leucophrys, White-crowned Sparrow:
Common breeder. Many juveniles seen.
- (10) Calcarius l. lapponicus, Lapland Longspur:
Saw none. Captain Bartlett says that they used to be common.

List of Specimens taken:

1 Mallard Duck	(obtained from the natives)
2 Horned Larks	(1 ad.♂, 1 juv.?)
1 Robin	(juv.♂?)
9 Pipits	(3 ad.♂, 6 ad.♀)
10 White-crowned Sparrows	(7 ad.♂, 2 ad.♀, 1 juv.?)

23 Specimens

The stomachs of these specimens were preserved for the United States National Museum.

The following list of things were also collected for the United States National Museum.

- 4 Salt Water Crabs
- 1 Sculpin
- 1 bottle of Insects
- 11 bottles of Marine Life

Rupert Bartlett made a collection of representative flowers from the island for the United States National Museum.

Field Notes for W. Turnavik, August 30, 1938:

On our way south we stopped at W. Turnavik on August 30. We arrived just before breakfast and left just after lunch. I was able to spend



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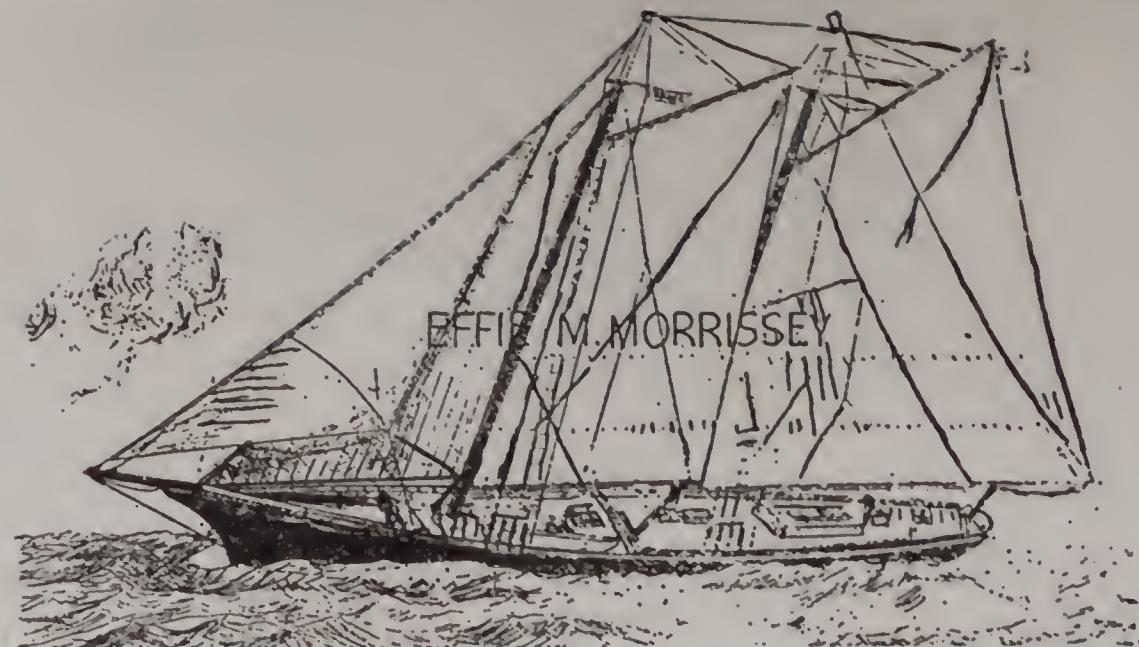
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about 3 hours ashore tramping about the numerous ponds collecting Birds, Insects and Marine Life. As usual I was assisted by Ray Hellmann. The day was fine with a moderate northeast wind. I had hoped to see some fall migrants, but was disappointed in this. The natives said that there had been an early migration. On the whole the birds were far scarcer than in July.

- (1) Fulmaris g. glacialis, Fulmar:
Several were seen outside the island.
- (2) Larus marinus, Great Black-backed Gull:
Saw one pair on the north side of the island, where I have never failed to see them.
- (3) Rissa t. tridactyla, Kittiwake:
A few were seen outside the island.
- (4) Sterna paradisea, Arctic Tern:
Numerous. Their harsh calls could be heard outside the harbor, while a few came in to fly about the harbor.
- (5) Ereunetes pusillus, Semi-palmated Sandpiper:
A few were seen to fly around the shallow tide wash. I winged the specimen I took, and he ran into the water and began to swim about like a duck. He then dived and swam under water, using both legs and wings to propel himself.
- (6) Otocoris a. alpestris, Horned Lark:
Saw several small flocks.
- (7) Anthus spinoletts rubescens, Pipit:
Several were seen at odd places.
- (8) Zonotrichia l. leucophrys, White-crowned Sparrow:
Surprised to see none, after their being so common in July.
- (9) Calcarius l. lapponicus, Lapland Longspur:
Fairly common. I found no Longspurs in July.

List of Specimens taken:

- 1 Kittywake (imm. ♀)
- 1 Arctic Tern (ad. ♂, stomach only)
- 1 Semi-palmated Sandpiper (ad. ♀)
(cont. on next page)



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Continued:

1 Horned Lark	(imm. ♀)
2 Pipits	(1 ad. ♂, 1 ad. ♂)
2 Lapland Longspurs	(2 imm. ?)

8 Specimens

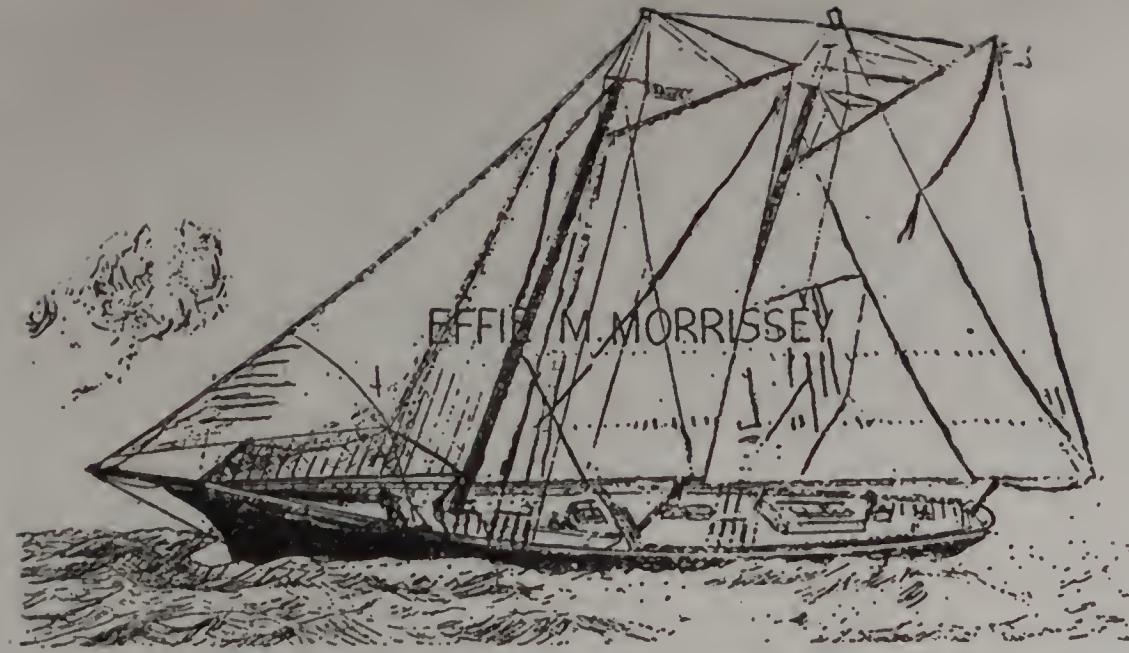
The stomachs of these specimens were preserved for the United States National Museum.

I also obtained from one of the natives the skin of a Hedgehog.

At W. Turnavik, we collected the following for the United States National Museum:

- 3 Cod stomachs
- 1 bottle of Jellyfish
- 3 bottles of Marine Life from a cast of the small seine in the tide wash.
- 9 bottles of Insects

Rupert Bartlett made another collection of flowers for the United States National Museum.



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Field Notes for Square Island, * September 1, 1938:

We put into Square Island just before dark on September 1, and left at daylight the next day. We had but an hour ashore which was mostly after dark. Of course I could do nothing with the birds. I could see quite a few dark forms flit about in the twilight, but only identified the Robin; we heard one note of what must have been the Fox Sparrow, and Ray says he heard a Loon. Saddlebacks were flying about the harbor.

However, we were able to collect the following for the United States National Museum:

- 3 bottles of Jellyfish
- 4 bottles of Marine Life (microscopic)
- 1 bottle of small fish (Banticles)
- 4 Bottles of Insects.

Rupert Bartlett was able to pick up a few flowers for the United States National Museum.

*Square Island is app. 52° 44' N. Lat., 55° 49' W. Long.



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REPORT OF THE SCIENTIFIC COLLECTING IN GREENLAND.
By D. C. Nutt.

Our first stop on the way north was at Godhavn, Disko, where we spent but a few hours, time enough to water, before proceeding north and across Melville Bay. We stopped at Cape York for a day and at Parker Snow Bay for a few hours before going into Inglefield Gulf on July 29. While we were in Inglefield Gulf, I was ashore for two days and went into the Salmon Lake region. After obtaining Narwhal skulls for the United States National Museum here, we went out through Murchison Sound and north past Cape Alexander to get the Walrus pups and skulls also for the United States National Museum. We put into Etah for an afternoon to find the remains of the MacGregor Expedition and a note from MacMillen who had been there on July 29. After reaching the edge of the solid ice of Littleton Island we came south with the walrus meat for the Eskimos and made four hauls with our large otter trawl on the walrus grounds of Murchison Sound, before leaving for the Canadian shore on August 8, 1938.

We collected birds for The Cleveland Museum of Natural History, and birds, mammals and their stomach, flowers, insects and marine life for the United States National Museum. The entire collecting was under my direction, and I had three assistants to help me. Rupert Bartlett, Captain Bartlett's nephew, was in charge of collecting flowers; Hugh Byfield was in charge of collecting microscopic life and insects; and Ray Hellmann aided me personally in the collection of birds and marine life. Here is a general list of the things we collected that will give a rough idea of our work:

- 5 Narwhal Skulls
- 4 Walrus Skulls
- 2 Walrus Pups (alive)
- 73 Bird skins
- 72 bottles of marine life
- 6 bottles of Insects
- 8 bottles of Red Snow
- 91 Bird stomachs
- 1 Mammal stomachs



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Flowers were collected at Disko, Cape York, Parker Snow Bay, Salmon Lake, Etah and Northumberland Island.

I have prepared detailed field notes on our work while ashore at Godhavn, Cape York, Parker Snow Bay, Salmon Lake and Etah. Throughout the summer I kept detailed sight records of the birds, but as yet have not tabulated the results of these observations, except for the places where I was ashore and for which I have prepared field notes. Any further information from these, or the results of any subsequent research with the specimens will be added to these notes.

Of course we did collecting while on the move and at places other than those mentioned above. Before commencing my detailed field notes, I shall give a brief summary of this collecting.

We obtained a bottle of microscopic life from some seaweed picked up on Hellefiske Bank. In Melville Bay I collected one Kittiwake skin and 2 stomachs. Three bottles of Marine life were collected from a bottom dredge just off Conical Rock. The stomachs of 22 Brunnich's Murres were collected from the Parker Snow Point Rookerie. The stomach and skull of the Floe Rat (*Phoca hispida*) were taken from a specimen in Whale Sound. Nine bottles of microscopic life and one bottle of Insects were collected on the Harvard Islands by Hugh Byfield. Just off the cliffs of Karnah, we obtained two bottles of Marine life from the bottom dredge, and one bottle from a surface haul with the Plankton net. While in Inglefield Gulf we obtained 5 Narwhal skulls and 1 stomach. A Plankton haul was made off Cape Alexander. It was near here where we obtained the 4 Walrus skulls and the 2 pups. On the Walrus Grounds of Murchison Sound we made four hauls with the large otter trawl in depths from 45 to 60 fathoms of water. From these hauls we obtained 33 bottles of Marine life. Just off Northumberland Island, I collected 7 Mandt's Guillemots and preserved their stomachs. Here Rupert Bartlett was ashore for a short while to collect a few flowers.



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Field Notes for Godhavn, Disko, W. Greenland (69° 13' N. Lat., 53° 25' W. Long.):

We arrived at Godhavn before breakfast on the morning of July 23, and left at noon that day. I had but $2\frac{1}{2}$ hours in the field and in so short a time was unable to get any satisfactory observations. My notes cover also the birds that we saw in the immediate vicinity of Godhavn before we arrived and after we left.

Godhavn is a sheltered little harbor at the foot of high cliffs about 2000 feet high. We spent all our time ashore near the sea where there were sections of rocks and tundra that dropped off abruptly into the sea in rocky cliffs. A rushing stream cuts down to the sea from a heavy tundra and some ponds; but lack of time prevented our going up this valley. I was accompanied as usual by my assistant Ray Hellmann. There was no wind, and there was an occasional drizzle.

(1) Loon, Red-throated:

Saw none: but last year on August 17, I saw a pair flying high over the ponds up the valley, and they were said to be nesting there. In all probability, there was another pair up there this year.

(2) Fulmar:

Many were seen about the harbor, and these for the most part were of the light phase with white heads, but their wings were very dark.

(3) Gyrfalcon:

A German scientist, who was camping on the shore nearby, had two young ones that he was going to take back for falconing.

(4) Eider, Northern:

Several small flocks were seen flying along the shore after we left Godhavn.

(5) Sandpiper, purple:

Rare. I obtained one specimen and he was all I saw. The German scientist said that he had seen but few. Dr. Porsild said last year that they were fairly common along the shore.

(6) Gull, Glaucous:

The Burgomaster was common about the harbor and shore.



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- (7) Kittywake:
Common
- (8) Tern, Arctic:
Very few were seen. Last year they were fairly common.
- (9) Guillemot, Mandt's:
A few were seen after we left.
- (10) Raven, Northern:
Several were seen but only in the harbor.
- (11) Wheatear, Greenland:
Common. Many young were seen, and they appeared to be wary, as we had difficulty in approaching them.
- (12) Redpoll:
Saw only three; but they must have been common up the valley.
- (13) Longspur, Lapland:
Common. Many young.
- (14) Snow Bunting:
Very common everyplace; many young noted.

List of Specimens taken:

1 Purple Sandpiper	(ad.♂)
6 Greenland Wheatears	(6 juv.?)
2 Redpolls	(1 ad.♂, 1 juv.?)
8 Lapland Longspurs)	(4 ad.♂, 4 juv.?)
6 Snow Buntings	(2 ad.♂, 2 ad.♀s, 2 juv.)

23 specimens

The stomachs of 3 Wheatears, 8 Longspurs, 6 Buntings and Purple Sandpiper were saved for the United States National Museum.

Also collected for the United States National Museum:
4 bottles of Microscopic Life
2 bottles of Insects.

Rupert Bartlett made a collection of representative flowers for the United States National Museum.



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Field Notes for Parker Snow Bay, N. W. Greenland (76° 07' N. Lat., 68° 12' W. Long):

Arrived in Parker Snow Bay at 4:00 P.M. on July 27, and were ashore at the head of the bay till 8:00 P.M. Both sides of the entrance to the bay are steep rocky cliffs on which nest the little Auks. The head of the bay slopes gradually from the glacier to the sea, and in places is covered with a network of small rushing glacial streams. Between these streams are either rocky ridges or marshy tundra. Behind a beach of coarse pebbles were low muddy flats washed by both the tide and the streams. During the time ashore we were able to cover this area thoroughly, but were unable to go up a valley to the northeast which gave the appearance of very good territory. Ray Hellmann was with me as usual, and Hugh Byfield was off to collect insects and microscopic life, while Rupert Bartlett was after flowers. The weather was partly cloudy when we set out and by the time we returned, fog had set in.

(1) Eider, Northern:

Many were seen flying along the shore including several flocks composed mostly of drakes.

(2) Plover, ringed:

Fairly common around muddy flats.

(3) Sandpiper, Baird's:

Not common; obtained one specimen.

(4) Glaucous Gull:

Common.

(5) Guillemot, Mandt's:

Fairly common in the bay.

(6) Murre, Brunnich's:

Fairly common in the bay.

(7) Dovekie:

Extremely common. The cliffs of Parker Snow Bay are a well known breeding place of the Dovekie.

(8) Raven, Northern:

Saw none, but I am sure we would have found some on the north side of the bay where we did not have time to go.

(9) Longspur, Lapland:

Shot one adult female for an extremely far north record for this species. She was very tired and I almost caught her in my cap.



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(10) Bunting, Snow:

Very common breeder; many juveniles.

(11) Knot:

Captain Bartlett says that the Knots used to be common breeders here but we saw none.

List of Specimens taken:

3 Ringed Plovers	(2 ad. σ , 1 ad. φ)
1 Baird's Sandpiper	(ad. φ)
1 Glaucous Gull	(ad. φ)
1 Lapland Longspur	(ad. φ)
7 Snow Buntings	(1 ad. σ , 6 juv.?)
<hr/> <u>13 specimens</u>	

The stomachs of all these birds were saved for the United States National Museum.

Four bottles of microscopic life were also collected by Hugh Byfield, and also 1 bottle of insects.

Rupert Bartlett made his usual collection of representative flowers.



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Field Notes for Niacuynarstak, just north of Cape York (75 59' N. Lat.,
66 12' W. Long):

The vessel was at anchor at Cape York glacier, and on the afternoon of July 28, 1938, we went ashore several miles north in the whaleboat. The place where we landed was a low flat piece of land at the foot of a glacier, surrounded on all sides by tall steep cliffs. Glacial streams and ponds wound over the marshy tundra, making it look like a good place for shore birds, but we saw neither one. Captain Bartlett suggests that the natives might have scared them away because the Sanderlings used to be very common here. The weather was cloudy with an occasional drizzle. Ray Hellmann accompanied me as usual.

(1) Eider, Northern:

Fairly common. Again I noticed the presence of a large number of drakes.

(2) Gull, Glaucous:

Common.

(3) Guillemot, Mandt's:

Common at sea along the shore.

(4) Murre, Brunnich's:

Not common in the valley but quite a few were seen flying high out at sea.

(5) Dovekie:

Very common breeder in the cliffs:

(6) Raven, Northern:

Saw two high about the cliffs.

(7) Snow Bunting:

Common as everywhere.

List of Specimens taken:

1 Glaucous Gull	(ad.♀)
14 Dovekies	(10 ad.♂, 4 ad.♀)
4 Mandt's Guillemots	(4 ad.♂)
2 Snow buntings	(1 ad.♀, 1 juv.?)



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The stomachs of these specimens were preserved for the United States National Museum.

Collected also for the United States National Museum:

- 8 bottles of Red Snow
- 4 bottles of Microscopic Life
- 3 bottles of Marine life
- 1 bottle of Insects

Rupert Bartlett made a flower collection as usual.



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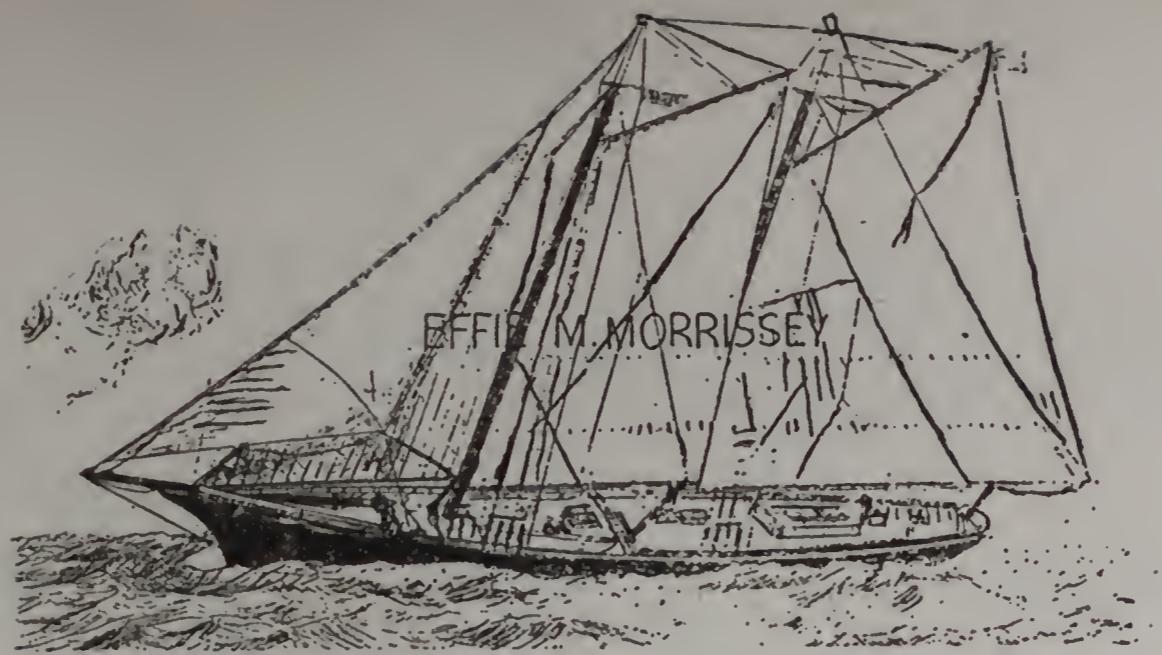
Field Notes for the Salmon Lake Region (between Inglefield Gulf and Orlick's Bay):

Shortly after midnight of July 30, I was given short notice to organize a shore party and expedition to the Salmon Lake Region. I chose for my companions and members of this party, Rupert Bartlett, botanist of the expedition, and Ray Hellman, my invaluable assistant. I set them to work getting the gear ready while I went with the cook to grab what grub I could, which included a bag of hard biscuits, a tin of sweet biscuits, 2 cans of corned beef hash and peaches, and some tea and jam. I was told that we would be ashore two days but to be prepared to stay longer in case the vessel was unable to get back on time. Other gear consisted of sleeping bags, personal clothing, collecting gear for flowers, birds, insects and marine life, a tent and an axe.

We were dumped ashore at Koengeralaksouag, an Eskimo village on the south side of Inglefield Gulf just west of Academy Bay. Ray and ~~Bur~~ert set to work pitching camp near by while I supervised the cutting up of a Narwhal skull that was to go to the United States National Museum. By 2 a.m., July 31, the Eskimo men had left on the vessel to hunt Narwhal and we were alone with the women and children. Having had a long hard day already, we turned in for a good rest before starting inland.

By 10 a.m. we had awakened and got the Eskimo women to boil the pot for us. Since it was such hard going over the rocks and we did not have much time, we decided not to lug our sleepings in but just take food and collecting gear. The Captain had given explicit instructions to take an Eskimo boy along to show us the way and we took the oldest boy, Mini by name, who was not more than ten or eleven years old. He seemed young, and from the start I wondered how he would stand up under the long hard walk.

By 11 a.m. we had started up the rocky slope from the sea. There was nothing but rocks, rocks, and a few scattered tufts of flowers that dared to peep out at the arctic sun from the tumbled turmoil of rocks. We bore to the left of a small pond and up over the shoulder of a rocky hill that overlooked a canyon at the bottom of which could be heard the



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roar of a stream as it rushed over the rocks. This was a stream coming from the lake perhaps? Here the going was treacherous, picking a path over the loose rocks that were on the edge of the perpendicular walls of the chasm. One at a time and on all fours was the word for the steeper places. As soon as possible after going around this shoulder, we cut down to the stream bed where we found the going much easier. The stream bed bore farther to the left (east); and after a short distance we came to a fork, where one branch came from the hills to the east and the other came from underground and bore to the right. Over a rise, we came upon what appeared to be a dried up lake bed, along which we followed. A biting wind in our faces made the going unpleasant and we stopped at 2:30 p.m. on the other side of this bed in a sheltered spot for a lunch of biscuits and jam.

Over the brow of the next hill we could see the north end of Salmon Lake, which on further investigation proved to be a small pond about one-half a mile across flowing into the lake proper by means of a small creek about a hundred yards long. I sent Ray and Mini around one side to reconnoiter, while Rupert and I went around the other. Along the marshy section of the west shore we found some flowers which Rupert stopped to gather. I picked up a couple bottles of microscopic life and then was off to the nearest high peak (to the southwest) to survey the surrounding country. From this point of vantage I got a better view of the lake itself. It appeared like an inverted T with the first small pond flowing into the bottom of the T from the north. Two hills prevented my seeing how far east and west the ends of the T extended. There was still some ice in it. While on the way up this hill, I saw a pure white Gyrfalcon flying above.

I descended to meet the other fellows on the south side of the small pond, where there were about a half a dozen Arctic Terns flying about. We tried several times to cast the seine but there was no favorable place and a fresh wind was flowing up the lake from the south. Here we sat down to discuss how best to survey the lake.

The walking over the rocks had been so very difficult that we had been able to move only at a snail's pace. I, therefore, decided to cache all extra collecting gear and food and proceed with as light loads as possible to rapidly survey the lake and perhaps find the passage down to Orlick's Bay. Having cached the gear on the south side of the small lake



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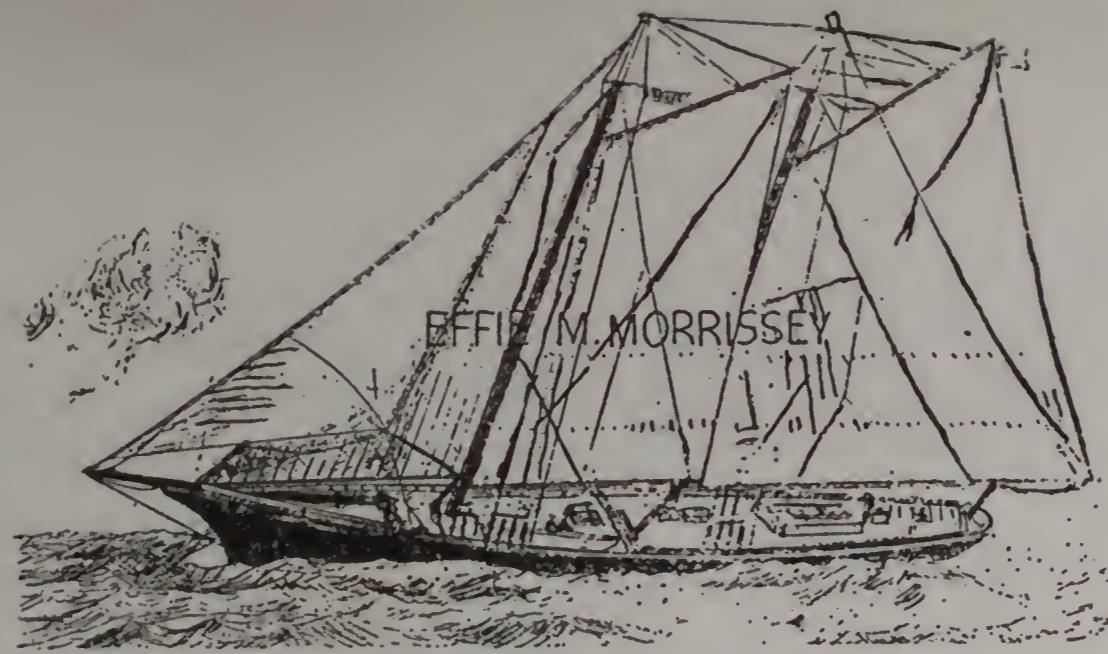
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and having had another mug-up, we continued down the west shore of the stem of the T of the big lake. After about three-quarters of an hour's tramp we passed a place where the lake narrowed to a scant 200 yards across, and as we drew nearer to the head of the T, we could see the east end of it extending farther and farther towards the ice cap. It was here that Mini exclaimed all of a sudden, "Takoo, Oocutta," and a broad grin appeared on his face as Ray unlimbered his rifle for a shot at the large Arctic Hare that stood up on his haunches not 25 yards away. But due to his confounded telescopic sight, he was able to get only one shot at him which he missed. Mini gave a dejected look and I cursed Ray and his sight as we got under way again.

We worked on farther and found that the west end of the T was merely a small bight from the bottom of which a roaring, shallow stream poured through a rich grassy valley toward the southwest. I recognized this as Peary's deerpastures from a picture in his book, and guessed that this was the stream that flowed down into Orlick's Bay off which we anchored last year.

As we followed down this stream Mini showed definite signs of weariness and indicated that he did not want to go any farther from home. We stopped to have a short mug-up and I decided to send Ray back with him. I gave them but a small amount of food, enough to reach the cache which was about 4 miles distant, and gave Ray instructions to take it easy on the way back and leave a note for me at the cache. I said that we were going to follow the stream in hopes of reaching Orlick's Bay, that we expected to get back the following morning. If, however, we did not show up at the camp by then, he was to come into the cache with more food to meet us, after leaving a note for the vessel in case it should arrive in our absence.

Now the going was good, soft grass to walk on in between the rocks. It is interesting to note that on the way up from Inglefield Gulf there was nothing but a jumbled pile of rocks with a scattered few tufts of flowers and grass peeping out here and there. As soon as we reached the highest point at the first small lake, the appearance of the country started to change. Down the shore of the big lake there appeared more and more flowers in between the rocks, and by the time we reached the outlet of the lake we were in a rich grassy valley that sloped up gradually



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to meet the rocky hills above. This abrupt change in the land as it slopes towards Orlick's Bay tends to bear out what Peary said about Orlick's Bay being different from any other place in the arctic.

We continued on down the valley along side of the stream. Every so often Rupert stopped to gather a few specimens of flowers. The sides of the valley closed in on us and became steeper as we proceeded. The distance is very deceptive, and we thought that we soon would be down to the bay but after going about five miles, we still were far from it. The stream here rounded a sharp bend to the left and cut through a gorge between two cliffs straight for Orlick's. Through the walls of this gorge we could discern a glacier that I took to be the glacier on the other side of Orlick's Bay that I had seen last year from the bay itself. It still was a good distance down to the bay. Low clouds were pouring down from the hilltops and the few snow flakes that had been falling all the afternoon now were coming down in earnest before a fresh southerly wind. We decided that it would be unwise to go on any farther, especially as it would be necessary to leave the stream bed and cut over the rocky hills. So we climbed the nearest ridge to try to get a view of the bay and see the country, but no luck! Clouds had already obscured all adjacent hilltops and the snow was falling faster. Here we broke out a can of corned beef hash and each had a slab before turning our backs to Orlick's Bay and heading upstream towards the lake.

The tramp back was along weary one. There were flurries of snow and it was cold and dismal with the wind but being at our backs it did not bother us much. We followed the same route, making no stops except at the cache for a mug-up, where I found a note from Ray saying that everything was all right with him. As we went down towards Inglefield Gulf and approached sea level, the snow turned to rain. We cut through the canyon, following the stream bed instead of going up over the shoulder of the hill on our way down. The going was hard, but we came out at the bottom of the gorge all right and made our way down to the village, arriving at 4:30 a.m. to find Ray sound asleep. He opened his sleepy eyes to have a bite to eat and hash over our return journeys. We slept until 10 a.m. when we awoke for breakfast. Turned in again till 2 p.m. when the vessel came for us, successful on the Narwhal Hunt.



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(1) Loon, Red-throated:

One was seen flying along the shore of Inglefield Gulf near the village.

(2) Fulmar:

Several of the light phase were seen off the village.

(3) Long-tailed Duck:

Two were seen swimming on the surface of Inglefield Gulf. About 100 yards from the village.

(4) Eider, Northern:

Flocks were seen flying along the shore of Inglefield Gulf.

(5) Gyrfalcon:

One pure white Gyrfalcon was seen flying high along the west shore of Salmon Lake.

(6) Sandpiper, Baird's:

Flushed a sandpiper along the shore of Salmon Lake in the snow that must have been a Baird's.

(7) Gull, Glaucous:

One was seen in the distance over Inglefield Gulf.

(8) Tern, Arctic:

Quite a few were seen off the village of Inglefield Gulf and 8 to 10 were seen flying over the first small lake just north of Salmon Lake.

(9) Snow Bunting:

Some were seen at almost all times on our tramp inland.

No specimens of birds were taken. Rupert Bartlett made a collection of flowers as we went along in at Salmon Lake. I collected 1 bottle of insects and 1 bottle of microscopic life for the United States National Museum.



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Field Notes for Etah, August 2, 1938:

We put into Etah for about 4 hours on the afternoon of August 2. Ray Hellmann and I went in the whaleboat to the head of the fjord at the foot of Brother John's Glacier where we found a beautiful, warm sheltered spot. The temperature must have been more than 60° F. on the edge of the pond sheltered by the surrounding high cliffs and glacier. The weather was warm and sunny.

(1) Eider, Northern:

Many females and young were seen near the head of the fjord.

(2) Gull, Glaucous:

Numerous Burgomasters were seen flying high over the cliffs.

(3) Dovekies:

A common breeder in the cliffs of the fjord.

(4) Guillemot, Mandt's:

Numerous small flocks were feeding in the fjord.

(5) Raven, Northern:

A few were seen flying high about the tops of the cliffs.

(6) Snow Bunting:

A very few were seen at all.

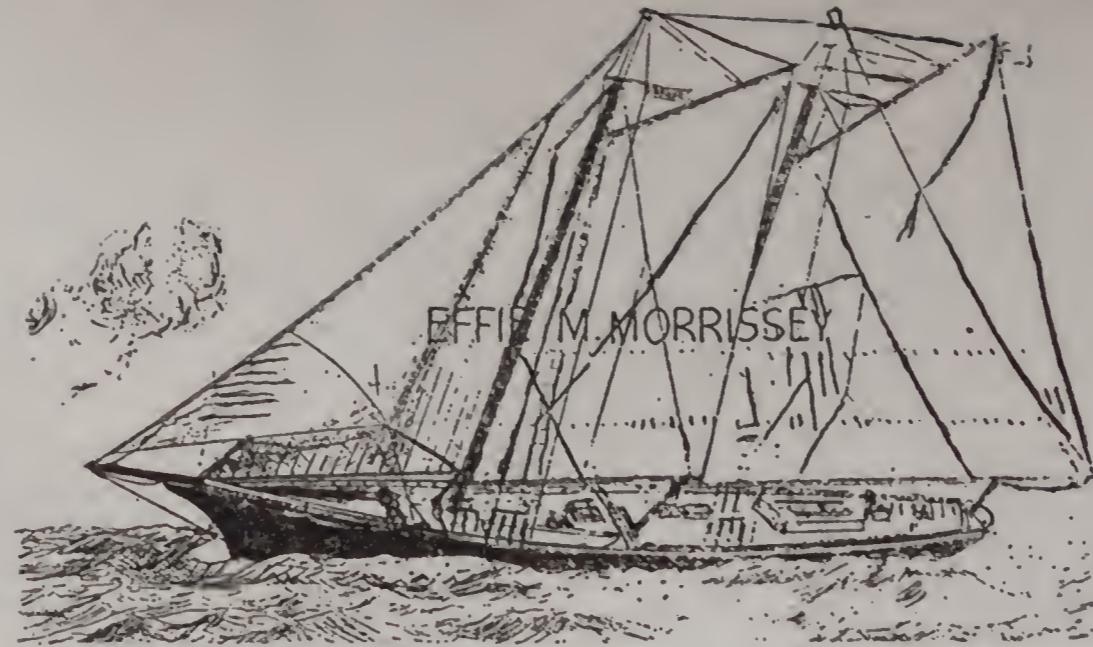
I found the wing of what I believe was from a Baird's Sandpiper, and also found a feather that could only have come from a Gyrfalcon. Lying on some grass, I found the egg of a Snow Bunting that looked as if it had been pecked open by some other small bird.

List of Specimens taken:

6 Mandt's Guillemots (4 ad♂, 2 ad♀)

The stomachs of these birds were preserved for the United States National Museum for which I also collected 3 bottles of microscopic life and one bottle of insects.

Rupert Bartlett made his usual collection of flowers ashore at Etah itself.



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Birds

- 3 Ringed Plovers
- 1 Purple Sandpiper
- 1 Baird's Sandpiper
- 1 Pomerine Jaeger
- 2 Glaucous Gulls
- 1 Kittiwake
- 1 Burnnich's Murr
- 17 Mandt's Guillemot
- 13 Dovekies
- 6 Greenland Wheatears
- 2 Redpolls
- 12 Lapland Longspurs
- 15 Snow Buntings

Stomachs

- 3 Ringed Plovers
- 1 Purple Sandpiper
- 1 Baird's Sandpiper
- 2 Glaucous Gulls
- 2 Kittiwake Gulls
- 22 Brunnich's Murrs
- 14 Dovekies
- 10 Mandt's Guillemots
- 3 Greenland Wheatears
- 9 Lapland Longspurs
- 16 Snow Buntings

Mammals

- 1 Seal (Phobia Huspida) stomach
- 5 Narwhal skulls
- 4 Walrus skulls, one stomach saved
- 2 Walrus pups (alive)

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REPORT OF THE SCIENTIFIC COLLECTING DONE
IN THE CANADIAN ARCTIC

By D.C. Nutt

We arrived in Canadian waters on August 9, 1938 off Talbot Inlet, Ellesmereland, and worked south along the shore. On August 10, finding ice conditions favorable, we went into Makinson's Inlet, but got only as far as the small island, having to come out on account of bad wind. We went south to Coburg Island where we anchored on the night of the eleventh in wind and fog. On August 13 we passed close by a Murre loomery on Bylot Island in thick fog. On August 16 we were off Cape Raper, Baffinland, and in a gale of wind and rain ducked inside the Cape to anchor in a small sheltered cove. Here is the only place that we were ashore in Canadian Territory, and it was in a sleet storm at dusk. On the next day the wind had moderated and we again got under way, proceeding south along the shore through scattered ice until we arrived off Resolution Island on August 26.

We collected birds for the Cleveland Museum of Natural History and birds, stomachs, flowers, insects, and marine life for the United States National Museum.

For the Cleveland Museum of Natural History we collected the following list of birdskins:

5 Brunnich's Murres
 2 from Bylot Island
 3 from Coburg Island
1 Lapland Longspur
 from Cape Raper, Baffinland

6 Specimens (total)

For the United States National Museum we collected the following list of specimens:

(1) Bird Skeletons:
 8 Ivory Gulls
 from off Talbot Inlet, Ellesmereland



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(2) Bird Stomachs:

- 8 Ivory Gulls
 - from off Talbot Inlet, Ellesmereland
- 24 Brunnich's Murres
 - from Coburg Island
- 23 Brunnich's Murres
 - from Bylot Island

(3) Flowers:

A collection of representative flowers was made while ashore at Cape Raper, Baffinland.

(4) Insects:

We were unable to collect any insects at all.

(5) Marine Life:

- 3 bottles of Jellyfish:
 - one from Bylot Island
 - one from Cape Raper, Baffinland
 - one from off Exeter Sound, Baffinland
- 9 bottles of Microscopic Life
 - collected at Cape Raper, Baffinland
- 1 bottle of a queer rock formation
 - collected at Cape Raper, Baffinland
- 13 bottles of Microscopic Marine Life
 - collected from the surface of the sea at various intervals along the shore by means of Plankton nets and scoops
- 2 bottles containing Bottom Samples
 - one taken off Exeter Sound in 124 fathoms
(app. 66° 07' N. Lat., 61° 10' W. Long.)
 - one taken off Lady Franklin Island
(app. 63° N. Lat., 63° 20' W. Long.)

Throughout the summer I kept detailed sight records of the birds, but as yet have not tabulated these results of these observations. Any further information, obtained from either these records or from any subsequent research with the specimens, will be added to this report.